

HOUSE BILL 311
By Lynn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54,
Chapter 15, relative to construction of toll bridges.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The department of transportation is hereby directed to begin planning, site selection, design, engineering and acquisition of rights-of-way for the construction of a toll bridge in Sumner County. Such toll bridge shall connect Old Hickory Boulevard and Gallatin Road near Old Hickory Dam.

SECTION 2. The toll bridge shall include all necessary approaches, connectors, tollhouses, and administration and storage facilities, along with all property, rights, easements and interests for construction, maintenance and operation.

SECTION 3. Such toll bridge shall include ample shoulder widths and two (2) or more lanes in each direction.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of transportation is hereby authorized to enter into contracts for the design, planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the bridge. Whenever practicable, the commissioner of transportation shall use Tennessee contractors in the design, planning, operation and maintenance of the toll bridge. Any contract for the operation and maintenance of the toll bridge shall provide that the department of transportation oversee such operation and maintenance to ensure public safety and affordability. The commissioner of transportation may use request for proposals (RFP) procedure in the design, planning, operation and maintenance of the toll bridge.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54, Chapter 15, is amended by adding Sections 6 through 9 as a new Part 2.

SECTION 6. The department of transportation shall have the authority to fix, revise, charge, and collect tolls for transit over any toll bridge in the state. The department shall have the authority to develop, construct and operate toll bridges in this state and to lease to qualified contractors the development, construction and operation of toll bridges in this state.

SECTION 7. Tolls imposed on a toll bridge shall be sufficient to pay for the construction, maintenance and repair of such toll bridges.

SECTION 8. Any person who uses any toll bridge and does not pay the toll provided commits a Class C misdemeanor. In addition to any other penalty imposed by law, the department shall have a lien upon the motor vehicle driven by the person for the amount of the toll and may take and retain possession of such motor vehicle until the toll and any penalties are paid.

SECTION 9. The commissioner of transportation shall promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to title 4, chapter 5, to implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.